

# LOVE LIKE THAT

MAY 19, 2019

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## BOLD

**Watch what God does, and then you do it, like children who learn proper behavior from their parents. Mostly what God does is love you. Keep company with Him and **learn a life of love. Observe how Christ loved us.** His love was not cautious but extravagant. He didn't love in order to get something from us but to give everything of Himself to us. **Love like that.****

*Ephesians 5:1-2*

*"To ignore evil is to become an accomplice to it."*

*Martin Luther King Jr.*

*"To see injustice and do nothing about that means to participate in it."*

*Jean-Jacques Rousseau*

## THE BOLD TRUTH-TELLING OF \_\_\_\_\_

**Luke 11:39-42**

**Matthew 21:12-13**

**Luke 10:38-42**

WHAT \_\_\_\_\_ FROM BEING BOLD TRUTH-TELLERS? \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_.

*"If we wear our masks long enough, we may guard against rejection, but we'll never be true. We'll never be honest. We'll never be bold. And that means we'll never love like Jesus."*

*Les Parrott*

*"...when people have seen you at your worst, you don't have to put on the mask as much. And that gives us license to try on that radical hat of liberation, that hat of self-acceptance."*

*Anne Lamott*

FEARLESS HONESTY: HOW AM I BEING OPEN AND REAL WITH \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_?

**2 Corinthians 1:12**

**Luke 6:26**

# WHAT JESUS \_\_\_\_\_ ABOUT BOLDLY SPEAKING THE TRUTH

**Matthew 5:23-24**

**Matthew 18:15**

*“Faithful are the wounds of a friend (who corrects out of love and concern), but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful (because they serve his hidden agenda).”  
Psalm 27:6 (Amplified Bible)*

## HOW TO BE A \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_ TRUTH-TELLER

**Ephesians 4:15**

**Fill in the blanks:** Jesus, keeps us, fear, rejection, God, myself, others, taught us, better, bolder

### HOW BOLD ARE YOU?

Take a couple minutes to complete a self-inventory now, or do the same free inventory online at [LoveLikeThatBook.com](http://LoveLikeThatBook.com) to see your results and receive a summary at the end of the series.

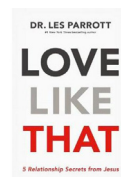
*For each statement, put the number that best describes you.*

**Never(1)   Rarely(3)   Sometimes(5)   Often(7)   Very Often (10)**

- \_\_\_ *My friends would say I'm transparent, straightforward, and direct.*
- \_\_\_ *If I have a problem with someone, I meet with them as soon as I can to get it ironed out (rather than sulking or whining about it).*
- \_\_\_ *I speak out if someone is not being treated fairly – even if it means risking rejection.*
- \_\_\_ *I'm bold when it comes to saying what needs to be said or doing what needs to be done.*
- \_\_\_ *When my conviction is strong, I couldn't care less what others think of me.*
- \_\_\_ *I feel urgent about making things right when something is wrong in one of my relationships – I take immediate action to make it better.*
- \_\_\_ *I feel congruent between my real self and the self I present to others.*
- \_\_\_ *I sometimes make people feel uncomfortable because I'm a straight shooter who doesn't put up with deceit or hypocrisy.*
- \_\_\_ *I'd rather be genuine than win approval.*
- \_\_\_ *I'm not afraid of rejection by others.*

\_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL**

If you would like to read more in-depth about the 5 relationship secrets, you can purchase the book *Love Like That* by the #1 New York Times bestselling author and psychologist Dr. Les Parrott.



## STUDY GUIDE

This Study Guide is designed to help you take the message with you throughout the week with daily Scripture reading and questions for your personal reflection and application. It is also designed to help you continue the conversation with your family, friends, and Life Group.

# LOVE LIKE THAT

### DAY 1

Think about a time when you didn't speak up when you know you should have. Either for yourself or someone else, long ago or this week. What kept you from being bolder in that situation?

How Bold Are You?

If you haven't done so, take the self-inventory on the sermon outline or online at [LoveLikeThatBook.com](http://LoveLikeThatBook.com).

How do you feel about the results? Make it a point to share with family, friends, and Life Group about your results.

### DAY 2

**Read John 2:13-16.** What was Jesus' motive? Why did he become so bold and confrontational? What can you learn from this aspect of Jesus' example?

### DAY 3

**Read Matthew 23:23-33.** How would you describe the tone of Jesus' words to the Pharisees? Jesus singled out the Pharisees more than any other group for his strongest critiques, why do you think He did this?

It's easy to cheer Jesus for His bold confrontations with this "brood of vipers". But, how would you have felt if you were one of the Pharisees?

## DAY 4

**Read John 5:44.** We all fear rejection and seek the approval of others. That's why we wear interpersonal "masks" to present an image that is not congruent with who we are or what we truly believe or feel.

What is a go-to mask you use when you avoid truth telling? The "pleasant mask"? The "humor mask"? The "intellectual mask"? The "religious mask"? What mask do you use?

**Read Matthew 5:33-37.** Sometimes we use empty or religious words that sound good but have no real meaning. Can you think of a time recently when you "said the right things" out of habit but not out of your heart?

## DAY 5

**Read Ephesians 4:15-16.** Jesus was the ultimate example of speaking truth and expressing love at the same time. Which of these comes easier for you- boldly speaking truth or boldly expressing love? With whom do you have the biggest challenge in balancing these two?

**Read Matthew 18:15-16.** To be a truth-teller, a bold person in your relationships, you have to be willing to risk rejection. How would you rate yourself in this ability? What's one practical way for you to improve in this area? What relationship(s) need you to risk to engage in more truth-telling right now?

### APPLY

Who in your life would you like to be bolder with? It could be a specific person or a group of people.

### CHALLENGE

What is one practical thing you will do to risk to become bolder with the people you noted? Be as concrete and specific as you can be. Now go and do it!